

I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A diffuser for a distribution system for use in a pastillation machine, said distribution system including a distribution bar having a bore therethrough, said bore having a longitudinal bore surface, said diffuser comprising:

an elongate body sized to fit into ~~[[a]]~~ said bore of said distribution bar, said elongate body having a longitudinal portion between a pair of ends; and

~~a centering device coupled to said elongate body~~ centerers extending solely from said longitudinal portion for engaging ~~at least one surface of said bore surface of said distribution bar;~~
~~and~~

wherein said ~~centering device~~ centerers maintain~~[[s]]~~ said elongate body generally spaced from ~~at least one wall~~ said bore surface of said bore of said distribution bar of said distribution system to permit the flow of fluid around said longitudinal portion of said elongate body.

2. (Currently Amended) A diffuser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said ~~centering device~~ centerers maintain~~[[s]]~~ said elongate body generally in the center of said bore.

3. (Original) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said elongate body is a bar.

4. (Original) A diffuser as claimed in claim 3 wherein said elongate body is comprised of steel.

5. (Original) A diffuser as claimed in claim 4 wherein said elongate body is comprised of type 316 stainless steel.

6. (Currently Amended) A diffuser as claimed in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 2 wherein said ~~centering device~~ centerers comprise~~[[s]]~~ a series of tabs extending outwardly from ~~opposing edges of said bar~~ said longitudinal portion of said elongate body.

7. (Currently Amended) A diffuser as claimed in claim 6 wherein ~~said tabs are formed in pairs along the length of said bar and~~ alternating pairs of said tabs are bent extend in opposite directions.

8. (New) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said centerers comprise springs.

9. (New) A diffuser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said elongate body is a rod.